

SPOKE

Conestoga College, Kitchener

AUGUST 3, 1999

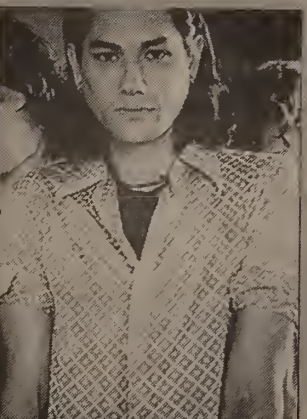
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DSA miffed over solar car no-show

Solar car group misses second race despite \$3,000 grant

By Brad Dugard

The Doon Student Association wants its contribution to Conestoga's solar car team back after the team failed to attend this year's race in Washington, D.C.

Ellen Menage, DSA president, said this is the second time the car has failed to make it to the international event and the student association has had enough.

"I just want to know why now, twice in a row, they didn't go. I want to know why there wasn't an official 'we didn't go' statement."

She said the DSA has been a major supporter of the Spectre II solar car team, but that will probably change.

"We want our money back," she said.

The DSA was very specific in its contract with the solar car team that they were to enter the race, especially after the first solar car, Spectre I, never went.

"I don't want our money sunk into a solar car that is not going anywhere. I feel that it was their responsibility to either go into the race or to give (the funds) back to the people that donated to the project in the first place," she said.

According to the DSA request for grant application, the Conestoga College solar car team requested \$7,000 and in turn promised to have the car ready by April 1999. The DSA gave the group \$3,000.

Menage said the DSA executive was very cautious with the grant

because of the failure of the first car to make it to the race.

"It is not fair for students to pay into something and not see the results while they are here (at the school). The whole purpose of the activity fee is to run events and do things for the students while they are here."

Martin Hare, faculty representative for the team, said this year's team did a lot of work but just couldn't get the car completed in time.

"It is very sad.

They haven't got the steering done, and they haven't got the motors finished, and I'm not sure



"We want our money back"

Ellen Menage,
DSA president

if they got any of the telemetry done."

Hare said the team two years ago was actually closer to entering the race.

This past year there were just too



Evan Prentice, left, Mike Turos, centre, and Shin Huang, members of the Solar car team, with the unfinished Spectre II.
(Photo by Brad Dugard)

many problems that hurt the club.

"I think one of the reasons it didn't run this time was because there weren't too many students who were actually in the team at the end. There was a core of about eight of them and that wasn't enough to get the car down to Washington."

He added some of the technology used was more advanced and difficult to implement.

"They were trying to develop a brand new, hub-less electric motor (but) they never actually got the prototype working."

Hare said although the club has

had its problems getting a car to the race, they have not given up.

"In September, we are going to start the Spectre club again and I can guarantee you we'll have a car in the race in 2001."

However, according to Menage the solar car might not receive any more of the DSA's money.

"I don't think this executive is going to be willing to support (another solar car project)," she said. "It just doesn't sit right with me. I just don't understand how two years in a row it has been this way. I really thought they would go (to the race) this year."

1,000-gallon tank leak, causes flood in cafeteria

By Lindsay Gibson

Brian Sprague of housekeeping got his feet wet, literally, when he went to work July 19. The cafeteria had flooded and Sprague along with other housekeeping employees spent the day cleaning up the mess.

"This is a pain in the rear end," said Sprague at noon after spending more than three hours mopping and vacuuming up the water.

The water leaked from a hot water tank located under the drink island in the cafeteria. Sprague noticed the water when he arrived in the morning. The water ran from the food section of the cafeteria into the seating area.

The 1,000-gallon tank was being drained for inspection, but the line was not capable of handling the amount of water coming out and a leak developed, said Barry Milner, manager of physical resources.

As a result, Sprague and the other housekeeping employees were kept busy all day, trying to keep up with the amount of water leaking on the cafeteria floor. The leak was repaired in the afternoon after the tank had drained.

The tank provides hot water to the entire main building of the Doon campus, said Milner.

"Most of the water went down the drain, but some leaked out," he said.

There was no damage.

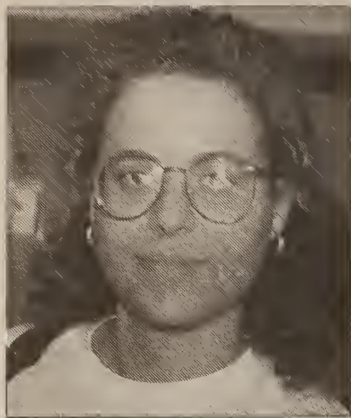
SUNRAYCE FACTS

Sunrayce:

- Sunrayce is a long-distance solar car race held every two years in the United States.
- The goal of the race is to advance knowledge about energy and energy-efficient technologies.
- Lasting 10 days, Sunrayce '99 started in Washington, D.C. June 21 and finished in Orlando June 30.
- Sunrayce was founded in 1990 but traces its roots to the 1987 World Solar Challenge, the first transcontinental race of solar-powered vehicles.

Conestoga's Team:

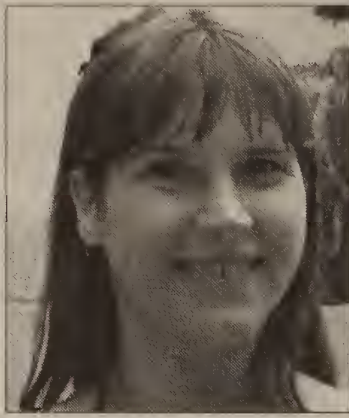
- Spectre II was the solar team's second attempt at entering the Sunrayce competition.
- Spectre I was unable to enter the race in 1997 due to a delay in some sponsors getting their money in.
- Spectre II, unlike the original car, used a four-wheel design after race organizers saw a need to increase the stability of the cars.
- The proposal for Spectre II was ranked among the top designs submitted to Sunrayce, for its innovative use of technology.



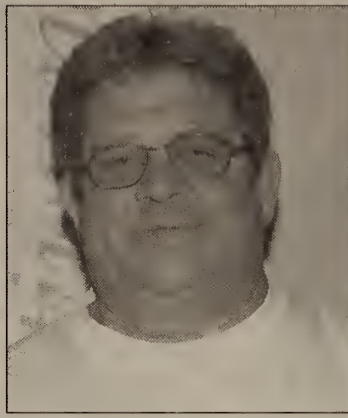
Rose Marie Ellul, a robotics and automation student.



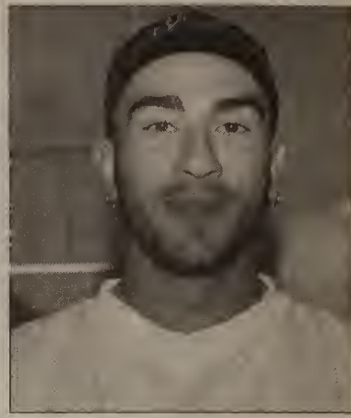
Sheareda Zamaluddin, a graduate of the accounting program.



Terri Partyka will be taking healthcare operations in the fall.



David Pettigrew, materials management student.



Matt Gunzel, second-year robotics engineering student.

Should Conestoga offer a phys ed elective?

**Story and Photos
By Linda Wright**

Most students at Conestoga College feel a need for a physical education elective.

Physical activity promotes mental activity, so there should be a physical education elective offered at the college, according to a random survey conducted July 22 at the Doon campus of Conestoga College.

At other colleges and universities where the elective is offered the response from students is positive.

Most students agreed that if there was a physical education elective offered they would sign up for it.

Terri Partyka, who will be studying health-care operations in

September, said if it wasn't for the physical education elective offered at Georgian College, her friend, who is in a wheelchair, wouldn't have had the opportunity to participate in sports.

"Because we ride around in cars and don't get enough exercise, it (the elective) would motivate people to exercise."

**David Pettigrew,
materials management
student**

"Not only was she able to watch, but she was able to wheel out onto the court and play basketball," she said.

Jon Herring, a third-year robotics and automation student, said because only certain electives run

Campus Question

in the summer, students had to take what was offered.

"It would be a lot better than the wellness elective we were forced to take," he said.

David Pettigrew, a materials management student, said if there was a physical education elective students might be able to incorporate fitness into their everyday lives.

"Because we ride around in cars and don't get enough exercise, it (the elective) would motivate people to exercise," he said.

Trevor Marks, a third-year robotics engineering student, said between having a job and attending classes there is no time to exercise. Also, physical education was his favourite class in high school.

"You could get a bunch of people together and play volleyball and it might provoke students into using the recreation centre," he said.

Matt Gunzel, a second-year robotics and engineering student, said the elective would be a good stress reliever for high-tension classes.

"If it's part of my scheduled classes, then I wouldn't have to find my own time to exercise.

And, it gets you outside for a change of scenery," he said.

Rose Marie Ellul, a robotics and automation student, said the elective should be mandatory because a lot of people are out of shape.

"It would raise awareness," she said, "and show students what they should be doing and how to do it (exercise) properly."

On the other hand, Rob Gooden, a CNC programming student, said that's what spare time is for.

"We can do that on our spare and do it for free," he said.

Sheareda Zamaluddin, an accounting graduate, agreed with Gooden. She doesn't feel the need for a physical education elective.

"The college has a lot of sports activities to choose from," she said.

Plastic surgery patients need brain tucks

Why are so many aging adults worried about looking their age?

When we are growing up, hoping to get served at the beer store and at bars, all of us wish we could appear a few years older. But reaching the age of 45 or so, brings an urge to look younger.

With Canadians of the baby boom generation getting older, the popularity of plastic surgery is increasing in this country.

"The trend reflects a widespread desire to look younger and sexier," says Dr. Kimit Rai of Vancouver, in a June 24 Toronto Star article.

Rai tells The Star that people want to look better. I think he meant to say people want to do everything possible to delay the aging process.



**Brian
Gall**

Sure, people who are losing their youthful face to wrinkles would rather not see those lines under their eyes. But will it really look better?

We've all seen cases of plastic surgery disasters. A little too much of a chop to the nose must leave a person wishing they would have just accepted their facial "flaw."

The most common form of cosmetic surgery in North America, according to The Star, is liposuction. A procedure that involves making tiny incisions and vacuuming fat out of the body sounds crazy as hell to me, and apparently, it's a far from flawless operation.

Delfy Vega, 61, of Toronto, told The Star she paid \$7,500 for fat removal from her neck that left it uneven and a forehead lift that barely smoothed out her wrinkles.

Hold on a second. A forehead lift? Maybe it is just me, but if you are that worried about your forehead you deserve to get ripped

off.

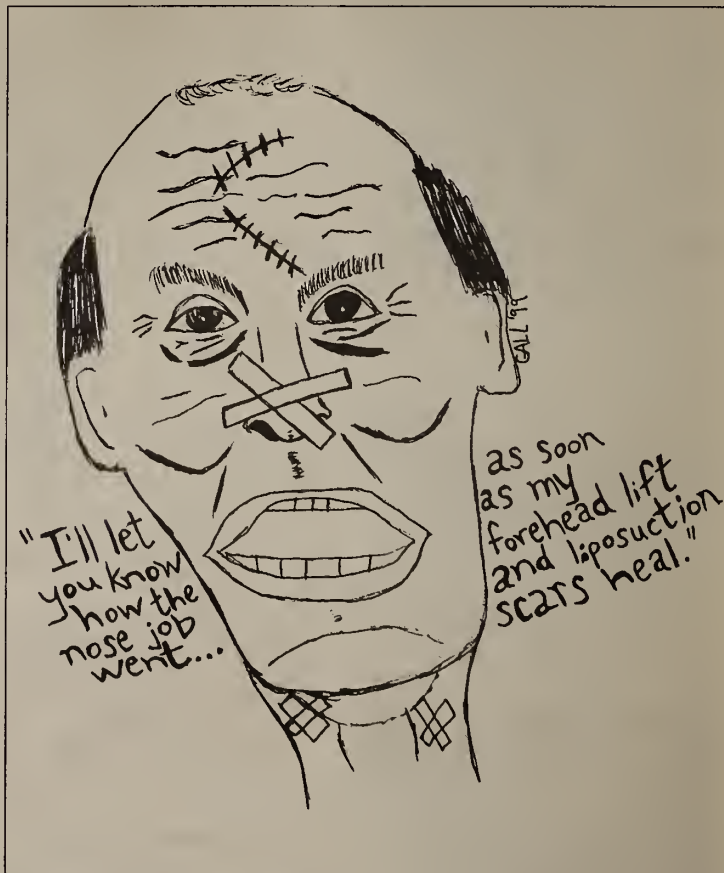
My sympathetic side feels sorry for Vega and her stinging skull. "I suffered a lot of headaches and it took a year for the (forehead lift) scar to heal properly. There was a lot of pain and it got infected," she said.

My realistic side says she's nuts. Allowing a doctor to carve up her body is her own fault. Any physician offering a service called a forehead lift must be just as crazy as his or her patients.

Whether they suffer from paranoia or a lack of self-confidence, people seeking plastic surgery (with the exception of those seeking help with burns or deformities,) need to take a second look in the mirror and ask themselves, "Is this really necessary?"

Because chances are that one botched surgery will lead victims to think about getting another operation.

And another and another . . . carve.



SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

Editor: Lindsay Gibson; News Editor: Chadwick Severn; Student Life Editor: Andrea Jesson;

Features and Issues Editor: Michelle Lehmann Photo Editor: Linda Wright;

Production Manager: Lesley Turnbull; Advertising Manager: Johnny Oberholtzer;

Circulation Managers: Adam Wilson; Faculty Supervisors: Jerry Frank and Christina Jonas.

SPOKE's address is 299 Doon Valley Dr., Room 4B15, Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4M4.

Phone: 748-5366 Fax: 748-5971 E-mail: spok@conestogac.on.ca

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Physical education class no option at Conestoga

By Andrea Jesson

Matt Fitzgerald's idea of education is more physically ambitious than the provincial guidelines allow for general education courses.

But Fitzgerald, a second-year computer programmer analyst student, said a physical education or recreation sports course is important for students to get a selective education, as well as to escape the typical classroom situation and get off their butts.

"It would give students a well-rounded school program," said Fitzgerald. "Not just sit in the classrooms, but allow you to exercise and enjoy some recreation with fellow schoolmates."

However, Joe Martin, dean of applied arts and access and preparatory studies, said a physical education course doesn't meet the policy requirements set by the Ministry of Education and Training.

Although the college has total control over courses and descriptions, Martin said the ministry sets standards for what's expected and required of a general education course.

The provincial policy suggests that general education is a significant component of every program of study. In a memo regarding general education policies, it suggests students should experience a breadth of subject areas and be offered some choice among these electives. The memo also says it is

important for colleges to reinforce the aspects of general education to graduates' short- and long-term success in the labour market.

For Conestoga College the principles are applied and the choices are available. The college has approximately 86 general education courses to choose from and the policy states that 45 instructional hours per semester must be administered into each general education program.

As far as physical recreation . . . an entire course on physical fitness is not an option.

"The issue of variety and choice is very important," said Martin. "We want students to have as much choice as possible."

But Fitzgerald and some of his classmates, believe their options are limited. He said at least half the electives they have to choose from are not interesting and they are restricted to choosing from specific blocks just to fit a course into their schedule.

However, Martin said the chances for students to miss out on the choice of electives is slim if they are enrolled in a two-year program and especially slim if a student is around for three years.

"We (the college) are one of the better schools for general education choices," he said. "We have added courses to hit those areas of interest to all students."

As far as physical recreation, however, Martin said an entire course on physical fitness isn't an option. But he points out that the general education course known as, Wellness: The Better You involves some physical fitness, but also concentrates on the development of a healthy lifestyle through evaluating the student's current lifestyle and identifying personal growth and ways to initiate and enhance the quality of life.

The 10-year-old course has had as many as 250 students enrolled. There are two sections in the fall and four in the winter. The course is also run in the evening. It is reviewed each year by a panel of experts in physical fitness. Martin said there is a good demand by students and it is upgraded and modified with new material at each revision.

Fitzgerald's dream of playing volleyball, squash or hockey for three hours a week and getting credit for it doesn't look promising.

"With all the talk of our generation becoming lazy and not getting involved with sports and exercise as much as in the past, this would be a good opportunity for students to get involved and to get some good exercise and recreation outside of the classroom," he said.

Drunk driving fatality stats lack accuracy

OFF CAMPUS

By Lindsay Gibson

The headlines are repeated daily: "Drunk driver kills family of four" and "Impaired driver charged after crash."

But with old and incomplete statistics it is difficult to say whether drinking and driving is getting better or worse.

The OPP report an average of 10 fatalities in Ontario every long weekend due to more traffic on holiday weekends and the increase in alcohol consumption. According to Anne Leonard of the Ontario Community Council on Impaired Driving (OCCID), there hasn't been a significant decrease in drunk driving fatalities since the late '80s.

"August is a bad month for drinking and driving fatalities because of the two long weekends and historically there were factory shutdowns," said Leonard. "It's just a real busy vacation time."

Leonard and OCCID look at the statistics and trends but it is hard to have current information.

The majority of fatal drunk driving statistics are single vehicle, nighttime accidents. Statistics on passenger fatalities are hard to get.

"That's been my beef with the MTO (Ministry of Transportation) since the mid-'80s because they chart only drivers," said Leonard.

Lindsay Tom, research officer for the road safety office at the

MTO, said the system is a manual one and was designed 20 years ago.

"To look at statistics on passenger deaths would be quite involved," said Tom. "It is not a database and would consist of me actually looking through files and counting."

Tom said a new system would help but it would take money and resources the MTO does not have.

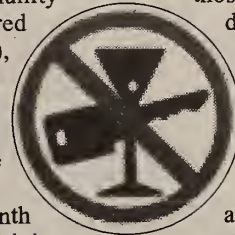
The most recent statistics from 1996 indicate there were 929 deaths in 816 drinking and driving related crashes in Ontario, 509 of those deaths being the drunk driver. This was a seven per cent decrease from 1995.

"The problem with all drunk driving statistics is it takes years to get them. There are accurate stats that are old or new stats that are incomplete," said Leonard.

The statistics are inaccurate because the police do not always test for alcohol at the scene of an accident. In an accident where someone dies the drunk driver may not be convicted and if the OPP are not at the scene, and city police are, the report will be made through the MTO and won't be known to the OPP for some time.

Core Hughes, traffic analyst for the OPP, said fatality statistics for this summer are not yet complete and won't be for a few years.

However, she said, "As a whole the fatalities are already up over last year and some may still be missing."



Conestoga grad experiences work world after college life

By Linda Wright

Imagine winning two medals and getting married all in the same week. Chris Gilmore, a graduate of the motor vehicle mechanic apprentice program, did just that.

Gilmore won the gold medal in Ontario and silver medal in Canada in the automotive service category at the Skills Canada competition, which was held at the Kitchener Memorial

auditorium in early June.

Tuesday was the Ontario competition and Thursday and Friday were the Canada competitions, said Gilmore. He got married on Saturday, June 5.

"I was a bag of nerves by Friday night," he said.

Because he had such a busy week, Gilmore was just going to enter the Ontario competition, but his wife encouraged him to try for the Canada competition.

How did he handle the pressure while competing? He said he tried to stay relaxed and went in wanting to do well, but not wanting to win.

"It took some of the pressure off and I wasn't so anxious," he said.

Gilmore didn't always want to be a mechanic. He was going to be a locksmith and work with his father, who owned a locksmith shop, but his father sold the business, he said.

He did his apprenticeship at Kaufman Automotive in Kitchener where he now works full time.

Looking for a gas-line leak under a car that was hoisted in the air, Gilmore apologized for continuing to work while talking, but noted people need their car for the weekend.

"It's very busy here," he said. "This is the first time this week we've had a free parking spot."

He went into the profession because he was guaranteed a job and it interested him.

His course was through the Ontario Training program, and he studied at Conestoga College, at the Guelph campus, one day a week and worked the rest of the week.

"I am going to miss having a day off," he said.

Gilmore said most of his family works at Kaufman Automotive. His uncle, Dennis Kaufman, said Gilmore is a good worker.

"We're proud of him."

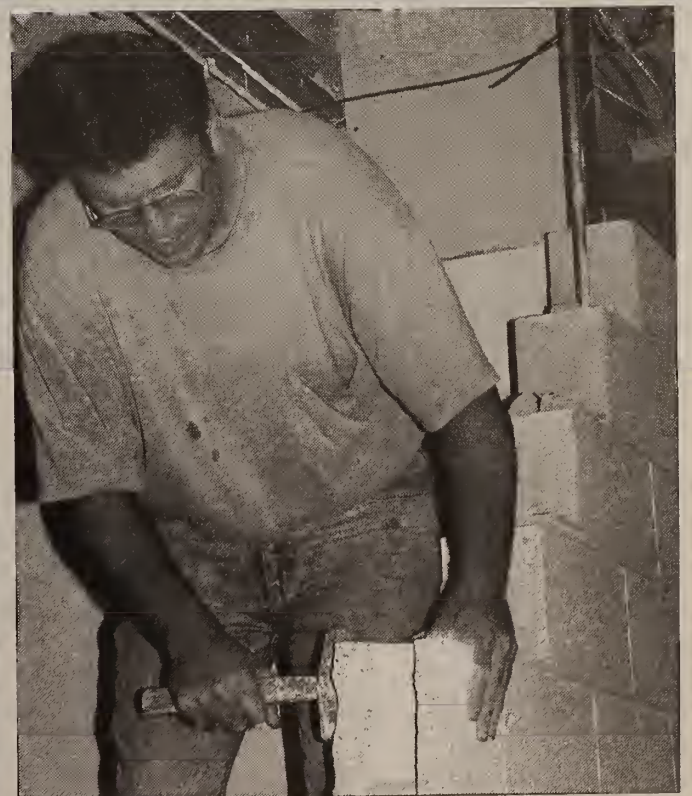
Kaufman said he likes the way Gilmore's program was set up to offer hands-on training as well as the technical and theoretical aspect.

Jim Palmer, a teacher in the automotive service technician course, encouraged Gilmore to enter the Skills Canada competition. Gilmore said that as long as the competition didn't fall on the day of his wedding or his honeymoon he would enter.

In the future, Gilmore says, he would like to have his life in balance.

"I work to live; not live to work."

Smashing down The Sanctuary



Mike Feletto, from Landev Construction, demolishes a wall in The Sanctuary as part of renovations.

(Photo by Michelle Lehmann)

Correction

In the July 26 issue of Spoke, Shawn Bradshaw's name was misspelled inside the pullquote of a story entitled, "Obstacles in life make student more dedicated." Spoke regrets the error.



Conestoga grad Chris Gilmore services vehicles at Kaufman Automotive in Kitchener. (Photo by Linda Wright)

Ridin' and Ropin'

Rockton Rodeo offers a challenge to cowboys and cowgirls

Story and Photos
By John Oberholtzer

OFF CAMPUS

Cowboy hats, chaps and more than a few saddle sores were the order of the day as more than 250 cowboys and cowgirls participated in the Rockton Rodeo July 24 and 25.

Contestants from across Ontario and the eastern United States converged on the small town southeast of Cambridge for the latest stop on the 1999 Dodge Rodeo Tour.

The tour began in Brampton on May 21 and it travels to 10 cities in the province throughout the summer.

Steer wrestling and calf roping were two of the featured events for the weekend competition, but bull riding was the most anticipated and dangerous segment of the rodeo, according to Randy Hartog.

Hartog, who is ring director for the rough style events, said cowboys must hang on with one hand to a rope tied around the belly of a bucking bull for at least eight seconds. The bull rider is judged on style and also receives more points if the bucking action of the bull is particularly violent.

"A couple of weeks ago, two guys from the southern States got lawn-darted right out of the chute," he said. "There's some tough stock here in Ontario."

The bull riding competition was delayed because one of the paramedics was caught in traffic when the rodeo was scheduled to start at 2 p.m. Two paramedics are required to be in attendance for this event.

"When things get started, keep an eye on Zombie Zoo and Head Games," Hartog said. "A couple of guys are in for some wild riding with them."

Only three cowboys have been able to stay on Zombie Zoo

for the full eight seconds.

Hartog also explained that points are awarded in the various categories and an overall winner is crowned at the end of the weekend. The top seven competitors in each event will be invited to the championship round in Newmarket on Sept. 10-12. There, cowboys and cowgirls will vie for the 1999 Championship Buckle, as well as cash and prizes.

Ross Millar, who is the president of Rodeo Management Group, emceed the festivities. The group was formed two years ago to operate and promote the Dodge Rodeo Tour.

"Local rodeo is just as good as the stampedes," he said.

"We've got more than \$150,000 to be won throughout the Dodge rodeo circuit."

George Hennings and Steve Zalvin were two of the early winners Saturday as they had the fastest time in the team-roping contest. In this event, one member of the team ropes the horns of a running steer to slow it down, which allows his partner the opportunity to rope the steer's hind legs and force it to a stop.

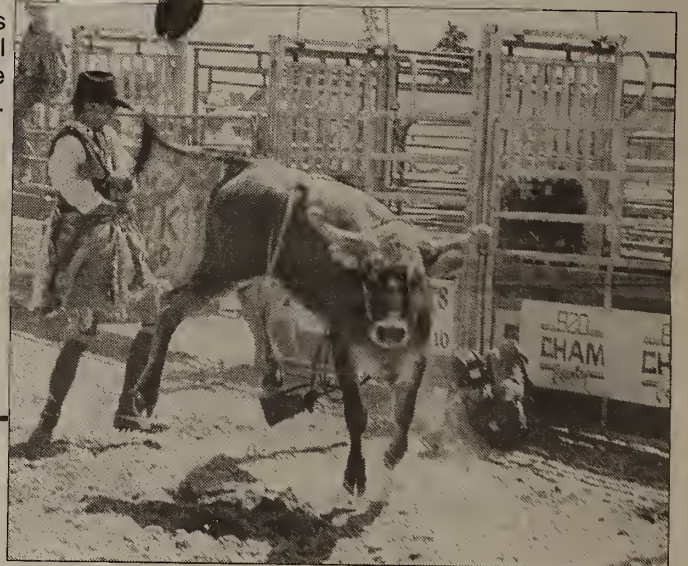
As the bull riding began, Zombie Zoo proved to be too much for Steve Prince, who was thrown off before the eight seconds had elapsed.

"He won't get any points, but we can give him a hand," Millar said to the crowd as Prince dusted himself off.



Steve Prince rides Zombie Zoo at the bull riding event at the Rockton Rodeo July 24.

Steve Prince is thrown from Zombie Zoo.



Ian Charman (on the ground) is thrown during the junior steer event.

Moist's Mercedes Five and Dime different, but solid

By Adam Wilson

When Canadian rockers, Moist, burst onto the music scene in 1994, they were just like any beginning band. They had high hopes of making it big in a tough industry.

With a five-song demo recording under their belt, and a low-budget music video for their first indie released song, Push, they set out to conquer the Canadian music industry.

Within a few months of releasing the demo album and the video getting heavy rotation on Much Music, Moist was gobbled up by EMI records and the band's career began.

Their first full-length release, Silver, was an immediate hit with both critics and music fans and Moist was literally an overnight success.

Now, five years after their music career began, Moist has released their third album, Mercedes Five and Dime, once again, to critical and commercial success. But what makes this album as good as, or even better than Silver or their second release, Creature?

There are vast differences between all three albums. Each of Moist's albums almost seems to take on a life of its own.

Silver had the undertones of great song writing and excellent music, but still came across as a garage-band type of album. There were the leftover grunge sounds along with some of Moist's more common loud and slow beat.

Creature was more serious, dealing with tougher issues like suicide and depression,

but was able to capture these songs with such an edge that the seriousness of the songs was more evident. With Creature, you could find yourself breaking out the air guitar and playing along with faster songs like Resurrection and Shotgun, and mellowing out with slower tunes like Leave It Alone and Disco Days.

Mercedes Five and Dime is once again different. The issues are there, but the music the songs are set to is a bit more mild and tame. Like Silver, the music is sometimes loud, but played at such a slow pace that normally hard

songs are mellow. The thing that makes this album as good as the others is the band's musical talent. Moist is a great band, and even with soft songs, they are able to grab the listener and take them on a four-minute journey with each tune.

Mercedes Five and Dime is packed full of great songs and great lyrics, like the other two Moist albums.

Songs like Comes And Goes and the first single, Breathe, are a couple high points on the album, but it's the words Moist writes that makes every song memorable.

The chorus of the second song, Dogs, is a prime example. "She picks me up, like I've never been down before, and it's hard to think you got the best of me."

Moist is a band that has only been around for five short years, but already has the know-how and capability to write a good album and make good music as if they are a veteran band.

Mercedes Five and Dime is a solid album. With 12 tracks and one hidden song, there is little to find wrong with any of the songs on the album, except the fact that there are no hard-hitting, rocking-out songs like on their previous albums. But the album is still a worthwhile asset to any record collection.

With this CD, Moist proves that their music career is far from going soft any time soon.

